

# **Astronomers Without Borders**

ONE PEOPLE + ONE SKY

# **Global Pairing Program**

# The POWER of NETWORKING

Sharing our interest in Astronomy and Science

Mike Simmons and Leo Heiland

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# **Connecting Experience through Mentoring**



Resourced Retired Older

# **Expanded Network**

Desire to outreach to others

Experienced

Desire to expand grow

Start Ups

AWB
Provides
linkage
and resource
identification







**USA Clubs** 

**International Clubs** 



# International Clubs Seeking Pairing

# Clubs requesting pairing partners

- Uganda Astronomy Club, Kampala, Uganda
- Anushandhitshu Choro, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- The Astronomical Association of Jamaica
- UP Amateur Astronomy Club, Lucknow, India
- Galileo Science Club, Chennai, India
- Royal Astronomers Without Borders of Southern Africa, Norton ,Zimbabwe
- Astronomy Section of the Namibia Scientific Society
- Jakarta Amateur Astronomers Association
- Aster Kherrata, Bejaia, Algeria
- Pokhara Astronomical Society, Pokhara, Nepal
- FLSAA Guilin China
- Club d'Astronomie Mizar, Azrou, Morocco
- RTU AstroSoc, Manila, Philippines

# **Club Interests Vary Widely**

- Range of interests varies widely
- Pairing partners should consider interests and experience
  - Varies from Elementary Students in Uganda
  - Entry Level observing in Jamaica
  - General observing and entry level interest India
  - Advanced study in High Schools grades 7-12
  - College clubs doing research in China.



# Why should we get involved

- Cultural exchange
- Exchange of information including outreach guiding and training
- Agenda to be determined by the two clubs involved. No set agenda.

#### Who will be involved

- Individuals to small groups in your club
  - Meet via SKYPE at your best time to meet

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# Challenges

#### Time Zones

 Example: Night USA Pacific Time aligns to day time primary school hours in India/ Pakistan /Sri Lanka

#### When to meet

This is dependent on both clubs needs and desires

### Languages

- All clubs so far have significant students and members who speak English.
- Vietnam provides interpreter for some needs (about 50% of members)

### Experience and knowledge base.

 Many N.A. clubs have been identified as well positioned to support the needs of the clubs seeking pairing.



# Program elements and support

#### AWB will provide:

- Framework for engagement
- Resources and references for engagement
- Initial meeting with team leaders from each clubs
- Suggested topics
- Program oversight and guidance
- Establish list of mentors and their expertise
- SKYPE checkout
- Follow-up on successes and changes needed if any
- Improvements to engagement process and resource development



# **Program Elements**

# Utilize club experts and resources of:

Astronomy Society of the Pacific.

Las Cumbres Observatory staff trainers

www.lightbuckets.com

Galileo Teacher Training Program

Other resources as available and TBD





# **Topics to consider**

- Potential topics may include:
- Visual observing
- Understanding CCD
- operation
- CCD imaging
- Robotic observatory
- operation and planning
- Star charts and observing
- Many more



# **Program Visions**

#### Goals:

- Enhanced understanding of our cosmos
- Improve observing techniques
- Establish technical and practical resources for clubs, individual observers and students
- Spark cultural exchange with International astronomers
- Retain young students' interest in astronomy and science by expanding the concepts of public and private classroom curriculum.

#### Commitment:

#### Clubs desiring to:

- Improve understanding of the cosmos
- Participate in mentorship opportunity.
- Partner with international clubs by delivering training materials, expertise, and time tested resources
- Support, develop and deliver on schedules



For more information see:

AWB website: <a href="http://astronomerswithoutborders.org/">http://astronomerswithoutborders.org/</a>

AWB GPP Page:

http://astronomerswithoutborders.org/projects/13-current-projects/1523-global-pairing-program.html

FAQ's:

http://astronomerswithoutborders.org/images/downloads/Specific\_topics\_of\_engagement.pdf

Application for GPP participation:

http://astronomerswithoutborders.org/club-information

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